

Smuggling of Gold

242. Shri Hem Barua: Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether any tangible effects have been experienced so far as smuggling of gold is concerned following the introduction of special rupee notes for circulation in the Persian Gulf Territories of Kuwait, Bahrein, Quatar, the Trucial States and parts of Muscat; and

(b) if so, whether the smuggling of gold has declined and to what extent?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Morarji Desai): (a) and (b). Following the introduction of the special rupee notes in the Persian Gulf Area on the 11th May, 1959, the quantity of smuggled gold seized upto the end of November, 1959 amounted to about 26,600 tolas against about 51,900 tolas seized during the corresponding period of the preceding year. The statistics for the subsequent period upto the end of October, 1960 show an increase in the quantity of gold seized. This is, however, due to the seizure of substantial amounts of gold during the recent months and it would not be appropriate to draw any definite conclusion about the trend of smuggling at this stage.

Temples of Lord Krishna At Dwarka

243. Shri P. E. Patel: Will the Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether the temple of Lord Krishna at Dwarka (Gujarat) is under the care and supervision of the Central Government as an ancient monument of national importance; and

(b) whether estimates of its repairs have been prepared and a wooden structure has been erected for its repairs?

The Deputy Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs (Dr. M. M. Das): (a) Steps are being taken to declare the temple a protected

monument. It will then come under the care and supervision of the Central Government.

(b) Estimates for special repairs are under preparation. A scaffolding has been erected to ascertain what repairs are necessary.

Smuggling of Gold and Precious Stones

244. Shri Hem Barua: Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Customs at Delhi and Bombay seized considerable quantities of smuggled gold and precious stones at these places during October, 1960 from air and sea passengers; and

(b) if so, the total quantity of gold and precious stones seized?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Morarji Desai): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The approximate quantity of gold and diamonds seized was 17,898 tolas and 9,375 carats respectively.

12 hrs.

MOTION FOR ADJOURNMENT**PRIME MINISTER'S STATEMENT RE:****INDUS WATERS TREATY**

Mr. Speaker: I have received notice of adjournment motion and also a notice for raising a question of privilege. The adjournment motion is from Shri Goray. It states:

"The Prime Minister stated on 14. 11. 1960 that the 'Indus Waters Treaty 1960 has been ratified. There is reason to believe that the ratification has not taken place.

This contradiction between the statement and the actual position has created a good deal of confusion to the effect that the ratification of the 'Indus Water Treaty' has not yet taken place."

Shri Vajpayee has treated this as a question of privilege and has said

[Mr. Speaker]

that the matter has not been placed before the House. Will the Prime Minister explain what exactly the situation is? I think he has got a copy of this notice of an adjournment motion.

Shri Goray (Poona): May I state the points on which I have sought clarification?

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): I stated that this has been ratified by Government. This was ratified, I think, on the 24th of September. On the 8th October the Pakistan Government was informed that we have ratified it. There is no doubt about that. That is the statement that I made. It is one thing to ratify a thing; and it is another thing to have the formalities of it, the exchange of what are called the 'Instruments of Ratification'. That is a technicality. That has not taken place because of a certain thing. There is one difficulty.

As the House will remember, the treaty is a very long one; it is a fat printed volume. When this was examined there were some mis-prints in it—nothing of substance but minor things, here and there. And, in ratifying it it has been decided that we should exchange letters pointing out the mis-prints, so that it may be on record that we did not ratify the mis-prints. These things take some time—the exchange of the 'Instruments of Ratification.' As I said, it was not only ratified by us and by Pakistan but we informed the Pakistan Government on the 8th October that we have ratified.

Shri Goray: If the treaty is ratified, then, according to article 5 it means that on the 1st of November, 1960 the first instalment has already been paid.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: That will depend on the exchange of the 'Instruments of Ratification.' The period would count from that.

Shri Vajpayee (Balrampur): May I submit that the ratification of the treaty is not complete until the exchange of Instruments takes place. In this case, there has been no exchange of Instruments of Ratification; and even then the Prime Minister informed the House that the treaty has been ratified.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I repeat again, it has been ratified by us. And, as a matter of fact, it has been ratified by the Pakistan Government. But the exchange of Instruments is a technicality to which the hon. Member, perhaps, has not paid attention. They are formalities, technicalities—the exchange of these things. That is a formality which will take place. It is held up chiefly because of mis-prints which we are correcting in the exchange of letters.

As for the last question which Shri Goray asked, the period begins after the exchange of the Instruments of Ratification. So it has not begun yet.

Mr Speaker: In view of the statement of the hon. Prime Minister, I find there is nothing except a misunderstanding of what has happened; and there is nothing.....

Shri Vajpayee: May we know who is going to sign on behalf of India and on behalf of the Pakistan Government, because from the Press reports it appears that it is not yet decided who is going to sign that treaty?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: The Press is not always correct. There is no difficulty on our side; it is the normal routine. But a question did arise as to who should sign on behalf of the Government of Pakistan because the Government there is not exactly of the same structure or pattern as our Government. That question arose; and I cannot definitely say, but I imagine that the President will sign—the President of Pakistan.

Mr. Speaker: I do not give my consent either to the adjournment motion or to the raising of the question of privilege. There is nothing more in it.

RE: MOTION OF PRIVILEGE

Shri A. M. Tariq (Jammu and Kashmir): Sir, the other day you said that you would let me know about the privilege motion which I had brought against the TIME magazine.

Mr. Speaker: The other day the hon. Member drew my attention to this and also tabled a notice for raising a question of privilege, that some statement appeared in the TIME magazine that notice of a half-an-hour discussion which had been tabled by the hon. Member, Shri Tariq, in relation to a brochure that was published regarding the Air India International was allowed to be withdrawn by me because I was approached by friends of the airline management*. Shri Tariq took up this matter.

Yesterday I got a letter from the correspondent of the TIME, who has been allowed to come to the Press Gallery here, that it was inadvertently published and that there was no intention to make any observations against the Speaker, and that he expressed his regret unconditionally. In view of that, I do not think the hon. Member will pursue this matter.

Shri A. M. Tariq: Speaker, Sir....
(Interruptions)

Shri Indrajit Gupta (Calcutta—South-West): Are they prepared to publish an apology? (Interruptions)

Shri A. M. Tariq: When they attacked the Chair it was published in the TIME magazine. May I have some assurance from you, Sir, on behalf of the Editor that they will publish this letter of their correspondent also in

the same magazine. Will you also, Sir, please lay that letter on the Table of the House?

Mr. Speaker: I shall take it up tomorrow and read it to the House and then ascertain the views of the House.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao (Khammam): Thank you, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: In all such matters, neither the Speaker nor the Secretariat can carry all these papers in their pockets.

The hon. Member should have told me that he is going to raise it today; and I would have brought it here. In future, every hon. Member who wants to make some representation here will just whisper into the ears of the Secretary; and they will bring the papers and keep them ready.

12.09 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

TREATY OF TRADE AND TRANSIT
BETWEEN INDIA AND NEPAL

The Minister of Finance (Shri Morarji Desai): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of Treaty of Trade and Transit between the Government of India and His Majesty's Government of Nepal along with the Protocol to the Treaty, letters exchanged between the Governments of India and Nepal and the Memorandum regarding procedure applicable to goods in transit. [Placed in Library, See No. LT-2419/60.]

REPORT OF TARIFF COMMISSION

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (Sardar Swaran Singh): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of each of the following papers, under sub-

*Corrected vide Debates Dated 17-11-60.